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MEDIA ADVISORY

Ind. OFBCI, Nonprofit Resource Network to host second nonprofit funding symposium

Over ten state agencies will meet with nonprofit leaders to explore grant opportunities and best practices

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EVANSVILLE - On the heels of success at the first ever Government Grants Symposium in South Bend, over 100 nonprofits and faith-based organizations will have the opportunity to meet with Indiana state agencies and fellow nonprofit professionals in Southern Indiana to talk about resources and community improvement.

This Government Grants Symposium is made possible through a collaboration between the Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network (INRN) and the Indiana Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI). The INRN and the OFBCI are joining forces to host a day of workshops, presentations, and opportunities to explore how state agencies and nonprofits may build relationships to meet community needs. The day will bring together leaders in the nonprofit sector, grant professionals, and state employees.

“In challenging economic times it is critical that nonprofit and faith organizations continue to lead and share their commitment to help Hoosiers in need,” said Jim Huston, executive Director of the OFBCI. “OFBCI is proud to partner with INRN to share government opportunities for engagement at our regional symposiums.”

As an interpersonal extension of the OFBCI’s first in the nation, virtual resource – the One Stop Shop web portal – the Government Grant Symposium will include an array of agencies that are part of the web-based utility. The Northern Symposium included representatives from 10 state agencies who were on hand to talk about grants and to present related information. The Evansville symposium will match that number and look to add even more.

"Indiana nonprofits today are exploring every possible funding source to sustain their organizations and their missions," said June Miller, Southern Regional Director of INRN. "INRN is fortunate to be able to partner with OFBCI to bring current, first-hand information concerning potential government funding sources to southern Indiana. The information and tools shared on August 22nd in Evansville will answer many of the questions we hear from our area nonprofits and give them the opportunity to expand their funding pools."

The Evansville symposium will be held Aug. 22, 2012 at the Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center in Evansville. Though it is the last symposium of this series to be held in 2012, it is the goal of the OFBCI and INRN to use both events as a springboard for future collaborations and opportunities to provide information to nonprofits.

To register for the Evansville symposium, visit <http://govgrantssouth2012.eventbrite.com>. For more information, visit <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/2659.htm> or contact Derek Trovillion at dtrovillion@ofbci.in.gov or 317-234-4031.

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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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About the Indiana Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI)

Indiana enjoys a rich tradition of Hoosiers working together to help themselves and their communities. In that spirit, the mission of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI) is to connect organizations and communities to grants, services, and each other; promote volunteerism and service to improve the lives of Hoosiers; encourage public and private resources to seed and sustain innovative and high quality community and faith-based initiatives; and highlight the good works of individuals and their communities with best practices and innovative models.

Based on the [State Service Plan](#), OFBCI strives to be a statewide public champion for service, a strong local, regional and national partner, an efficient grant maker, and a broker of new and increased federal and state resources allocated towards service and volunteerism. OFBCI's goals are to: 1) increase the visibility of service and volunteerism statewide, 2) increase statewide partnerships around service and volunteerism, 3) effectively administer grant programs and national best practice service programs, and 4) align staff and financial resources towards strategic priorities and desired outcomes. For more information, visit www.in.gov/ofbci.

About the Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network (INRN)

INRN is Indiana's leader in delivering practical, easy-to-use information for all levels of nonprofit staff and volunteers. The Network provides affordable, accessible, and high quality public and private workshops, board retreats, and resource referrals for Indiana nonprofits.

INRN services are managed from five regional offices throughout Indiana and coordinated by the Indiana Association of United Ways. Lilly Endowment has provided generous support since 1994. Frequent partners include Indiana United Ways, local and community foundations, Indiana Youth Institute, Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives, local and state government and area businesses.

INRN's mission, *to strengthen nonprofits with capacity building opportunities to successfully carry out their missions*, has been exemplified in INRN programs and services for over 18 years and continues to be a valuable asset to the Indiana nonprofit sector.

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